

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03496 102031Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----063599 102032Z /62
O 101725Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9173

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3496

STADIS

EXDIS

FOR ARA, L AND D ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, CI
SUBJ: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION

REF: SANTIAGO 3456

1. AT MEETING AFTERNOON OF MAY 9, JUDGE CANALES ASKED ETCHEBERRY IF SCHERER AND CORNICK WERE IN SANTIAGO NOW OR LIKELY TO BE HERE SOON. SHE SAID SHE HAD BEEN THINKING OF PREPARING LETTERS ROGATORY TO OBTAIN FROM THEM INFORMATION NEEDED FOR HER INVESTIGATION OF THE MICHAEL TOWNLEY EXPULSION -- ASSUMING THEY WOULD NOT BE RETURNING TO SANTIAGO.

2. ETCHEBERRY INFORMED CANALES THAT, WHILE NOT NOW HERE, IT IS LIKELY BOTH SCHERER AND CORNICK WILL RETURN TO SANTIAGO SHORTLY. THEREFORE LETTERS ROGATORY WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY, AND IN ETCHEBERRY'S VIEW, BOTH SCHERRER AND CORNICK WOULD BE WILLING TO REPLY TO QUESTIONS IN WRITING. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE JUDGE SEND ANY QUESTIONS SHE MAY HAVE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR TRASMISSION
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TO THIS EMBASSY.

3. ETCHEBERRY AGAIN STRESSED THE NEED THAT CORNICK AND PROPPER ARRIVE WITH DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS TO AVOID ANY MAVERICK ACTION BY TOWNLEY'S LAWYERS, WHO APPARENTLY ON THEIR OWN KEEP UP A VENDETTA AGAINST THOSE CONNECTED WITH TOWNLEY'S EXPULSION.

4. I AGREE WHOLEHEARTEDLY AND BELIEVE THAT DIPLOMATIC
PASSPORTS FOR ANY FBI OR JUSTICE OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN
THE LETELIER CASE ARE MANDATORY FOR VISITS TO CHILE TO
AVOID POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO THE USG DURING THE
INVESTIGATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, EXPULSION, INVESTIGATIONS, COURT PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTIA03496
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780199-0089
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780573/aaaackit.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 884630a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: 78 SANTIAGO 3456
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2735146
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION
TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, CI, (LETELIER, ORLANDO), (TOWNLEY, MICHAEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/884630a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014